

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following inventions are present in the claims:

Group I, Claims 1-9, drawn to an endoscope with two observation optical systems and means for adjusting both, classified in class 600, subclass 173;

Group II, Claims 10-16, drawn to an endoscope with two observation optical systems with a common input, classified in class 600, subclass 176; and

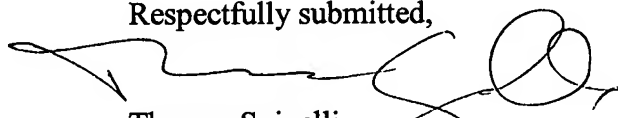
Group III, Claims 17-19 are drawn to an endoscope with a scanning optical system, classified in class 250, subclass 201.

It is the Examiner's position that the inventions listed as Groups I, II and III are distinct from each other.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group II, Claims 10-16. However, Applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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